

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A system for providing legal information comprising associated items of legal information and content, the system comprising:

at least one computer and a plurality of user terminals which
communicate over a network;

at least one database associated with the at least one computer storing the legal information in association with a plurality of legal topics and a plurality of types of legal information; and

a computer readable medium or media storing programming that causes the at least one computer to:

access within the at least one database a plurality of items of legal information in association with at least one legal topic responsive to a request received from a user terminal, each item of legal information being associated with one or more respective topic tags and one or more respective type tags, each topic tag identifying a legal topic or subtopic associated with the associated item of legal information and each type tag identifying a type of legal information corresponding to the associated item of legal information; and

cause each item of legal information associated with the accessed information to be provided for display on a display device associated with the user terminal from which the request was received, automatically tabulated by the respective type tags of legal information and configured to be selectable at the user terminal to provide a request for display on the display device of the content associated with the selected item.

2. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of types of legal information comprises at least two of: administrative action, legislative action, rulemaking, reported judicial decisions, and news.

3. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein causing each item of legal information to be provided for display comprises causing each item of legal information to be provided for display in a separate display window by type.

4. (previously presented) The system of claim 3, wherein the plurality of types of legal information comprises at least two of: administrative action, legislative action, rulemaking, reported judicial decisions, court filings, news, and secondary materials.

5. (previously presented) The system of claim 3, wherein the plurality of types of legal information comprises at least: administrative action, legislative action, rulemaking, reported judicial decisions, court filings, news, and secondary materials.

6. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of legal topics comprises at least two of: admiralty and maritime; alternative dispute resolution; antitrust; trade regulation; banking; finance; bankruptcy; business; commercial; consumer rights; corporate; business organizations; civil rights; collectibles and personal property; communications; media; constitutional; construction; contracts; criminal; education; employment; labor; entertainment; gaming; sports; environmental; estates, trusts, and wills; family; government; elections and politics; government benefits; government contracts; government administration; state government; local government; health; human rights; immigration; insurance; intellectual property; copyrights; patents; trademarks; international; international trade; internet; litigation; litigation administration; appellate procedure; civil procedure; damages and remedies; evidence; mergers and acquisitions; military; natural resources; energy; native populations; professions and occupations; professional licensing; professional responsibility; products liability; real property; science and technology; securities; US federal taxation; state taxation; international taxation; torts; transportation; and workers' rights.

7. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the programming causes the at least one computer to:

5 automatically access within the at least one database new legal information responsive to the request while each item of legal information associated with the previously accessed legal information is provided for display on the display device; and

10 provide for display on the display device each item of legal information associated with the accessed new legal information together with each item of legal information associated with the previously accessed legal information all tabulated by type.

8. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the programming causes the at least one computer to:

15 automatically and periodically access the at least one database to determine whether new legal information responsive to the request is stored within the at least one database while each item of legal information associated with the previously accessed legal information is provided for display on the display device; and

20 if new legal information responsive to the request is stored within the at least one database, provide for display on the display device each item of legal information associated with the new legal information, together with each item of legal information associated with the previously accessed legal information all tabulated by type.

9. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the programming causes the at least one computer to:

25 automatically and continually access the at least one database to determine whether new legal information responsive to the request is stored within the at least one database while each item of legal

information associated with the previously accessed legal information is provided for display on the display device; and

if new legal information responsive to the request is stored within the at least one database, provide for display on the display device each item of legal information associated with the new legal information, together with each item of legal information associated with the previously accessed legal information all tabulated by type.

10. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, comprising a plurality of databases for storing the legal information, wherein the legal information is stored in separate databases by legal topic.

11. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, comprising a plurality of databases for storing the legal information, wherein the legal information is stored in separate databases by type of legal information.

12. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, comprising a plurality of databases for storing the legal information, wherein the legal information is provided by a plurality of sources, and the legal information is stored in separate databases according to the source that provided the information.

13–15. (canceled)

16. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the programming causes the at least one computer to display on the display device tabulated by type each item of legal information provided for display.

17. (previously presented) The system of claim 16, wherein each item of legal information displayed on the display device is associated with a selectable link to the associated content, and wherein the programming causes the at least one computer to generate a request to retrieve the associated content from the at least one database in response to selection of a selectable link at the user terminal.

18. (previously presented) The system of claim 57, wherein the displayed content comprises a complete version of a document.

19. (previously presented) The system of claim 57, wherein the displayed content comprises an abbreviated version of a document.

5 20. (original) The system of claim 19, wherein the abbreviated version of a document comprises a summary of a document.

21. (original) The system of claim 19, wherein the abbreviated version of a document comprises at least one redacted portion of a document.

22. (previously presented) The system of claim 57, wherein the displayed content
10 comprises at least a partial image of a document.

23. (previously presented) The system of claim 57, wherein displayed content and a displayed item of information with which the displayed content is associated are displayed in different display windows.

24. (previously presented) The system of claim 57, wherein displayed content and a
15 displayed item of information with which the displayed content is associated are displayed in different monitor screens.

25–29. (canceled)

30. (currently amended) A method of processing legal information, the method comprising:

20 assigning to each of a plurality of documents which each comprises legal information relating to a plurality of legal topics at least one identifier associated with (a) at least one of the legal topics and (b) at least one of a plurality of types of legal information;

formatting the documents according to a protocol;

25 storing the formatted documents in at least one database;

using identifiers associated with the stored documents to identify documents within the at least one database responsive to a request received from a user terminal for information related to at least one of the plurality of legal topics; and

5 causing legal information associated with the identified documents to be provided for display on the display device, automatically tabulated by type according to the identifiers associated with the respective identified documents.

31. (canceled)

10 32. (original) The method of claim 30, wherein documents are stored in a plurality of databases.

33. (previously presented) The method of claim 32, wherein the documents are stored in the plurality of databases according to at least one of: the topics in relation to which the respective documents are stored, the types assigned to the documents, and a source of
15 the documents.

34. (original) The method of claim 30, comprising:

checking formatted documents for compliance with a document receiving protocol; and

20 generating a notice of defects automatically upon determination that a checked document does not comply with the protocol.

35. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, comprising automatically performing the assigning and formatting steps on the non-complying document.

36-55. (canceled)

25 56. (previously presented) The system of claim 16 wherein the programming stored on the computer readable medium or media causes the at least one computer to provide

for display on the display device content associated with a displayed item of legal information in response to selection thereof at the user terminal.

57. (previously presented) The system of claim 56 wherein the programming stored on the computer readable medium or media causes the at least one computer to display on the display device the content provided for display.

58. (currently amended) A method for providing legal information comprising associated items of legal information and content in a system comprising at least one computer and a plurality of user terminals which communicate over a network, and at least one database associated with the at least one computer storing a plurality of items of the legal information in association with a plurality of legal topics and a plurality of types of legal information, each item of legal information being associated with one or more respective topic tags and one or more respective type tags, each topic tag identifying a legal topic or subtopic associated with the associated item of legal information and each type tag identifying a type of legal information corresponding to the associated item of legal information, the method comprising:

the at least one computer accessing within the at least one database legal information responsive to a request from a user terminal; and

the at least one computer providing for display on a display device associated with the user terminal from which the request was received each item of legal information associated with the accessed information, automatically tabulated by the respective type tag of legal information and configured to be selectable at the user terminal to provide a request for display on the display device of the content associated with the selected item.

59. (previously presented) The method of claim 58, comprising the at least one computer displaying on the display device tabulated by type each item of legal information provided for display.

60. (previously presented) The method of claim 59, comprising the at least one computer providing for display on the display device content associated with a displayed item of legal information in response to selection thereof at the user terminal.

5 61. (previously presented) The method of claim 60, comprising the at least one computer displaying on the display device the content provided for display.

62. (previously presented) The method of claim 59, wherein displaying each item of legal information comprises displaying each item of legal information in a separate display window by type.

10 63. (previously presented) The method of claim 61, wherein displaying the content comprises displaying the content in a different display window than each associated displayed item.

64. (previously presented) The method of claim 61, wherein displaying the content comprises displaying the content in a different monitor screen than each associated displayed item.

15 65. (previously presented) The method of claim 59, wherein each item of legal information displayed on the display device is associated with a selectable link to the associated content, the method comprising generating a request to retrieve the associated content by selection of a selectable link at the user terminal.

20 66. (previously presented) The method of claim 58, comprising the at least one computer:

automatically accessing within the at least one database new legal information responsive to the request while providing for display each item of legal information associated with the previously accessed legal information; and

25 providing for display on the display device each item of legal information associated with the accessed new legal information

together with each item of legal information associated with the previously accessed legal information all tabulated by type.

67. (previously presented) The method of claim 60, comprising the at least one computer:

5 automatically and periodically accessing the at least one database to determine whether new legal information responsive to the request is stored within the at least one database while each item of legal information associated with the previously accessed legal information is provided for display on the display device; and

10 if new legal information responsive to the request is stored within the at least one database, providing for display on the display device each item of legal information associated with the new legal information together with each item of legal information associated with the previously accessed legal information all tabulated by type.

15 68. (currently amended) A computer program product, comprising a computer program stored on a computer readable medium that causes a computer system to perform a method for providing legal information comprising associated items of legal information and content, the computer system comprising at least one computer and a plurality of user terminals which communicate over a network, and at least one database
20 associated with the at least one computer storing a plurality of items of the legal information in association with a plurality of legal topics and a plurality of types of legal information, each item of legal information being associated with one or more respective topic tags and one or more respective type tags, each topic tag identifying a legal topic or subtopic associated with the associated item of legal information and each type tag
25 identifying a type of legal information corresponding to the associated item of legal information, the method comprising:

the at least one computer accessing within the at least one database legal information responsive to a request from a user terminal; and

the at least one computer providing for display on a display device associated with the user terminal from which the request was received each item of legal information associated with the accessed information, automatically tabulated by the respective type tag of legal information and configured to be selectable at the user terminal to provide a request for display on the display device of the content associated with the selected item.

69. (currently amended) A computer program product, comprising a computer program stored on a computer readable medium that causes at least one computer to perform a method of processing legal information, the method comprising:

assigning to each of a plurality of documents which each comprises legal information relating to a plurality of legal topics, at least one identifier associated with (a) at least one of the legal topics and (b) at least one of a plurality of types of legal information;

formatting the documents according to a protocol;

storing the formatted documents in at least one database;

using identifiers associated with the stored documents to identify documents within the at least one database responsive to a request received from a user terminal for information related to at least one of the plurality of legal topics; and

causing legal information associated with the identified documents to be provided for display on the display device, automatically tabulated by type according to the identifiers associated with the respective identified documents.